THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840].

"*And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be*" (REV. 22: 12).

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A PASSING THOUGHT.

AFTER the death of Christ, the little seeds of love which He had planted in the hearts of men took root, sprang up and blossomed. "Line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little," the great work He had started rolled on. For centuries England lay in spiritual darkness. The early Britons, in education little better than the animals which roamed her numerous forests, had not yet awakened to the priceless value of education; they knew not that "the glory of God is intelligence." Gradually, as the centuries passed, the mind of man unfolded. As a rose unfolds its petals and blossoms into perfection, so did man's mind unfold, and, unconsciously, he stretched forth his hand towards the fountain of all knowledge. Centuries passed, and slowly, very slowly, man began to realize that there were other things to live for than conquest, or just to earn money by which to live. The writings of God's ancient covenant people, together with those of the apostles of Christ, were given to the world in the form of the Bible; but not without bitter fight and much loss of life, did men become possessed of this "pearl of great price." The devil, when he saw this priceless pearl about to be placed within reach of the masses, stirred up men's hearts to fight against it, and they who dared to read the sacred book were burned at the stake with the book hung round their necks. But this only made the survivors more anxious to learn what that book contained.

All who read it did not interpret the writings in the same way. The men who wrote the letters, prophecies, and history that make up the Bible, were in direct touch with God. Many of them had actually lived with Christ, the great teacher. Of the rest, all had heard the voice of God speaking to them, or had written under His inspiration. Now, no man knoweth the things of God, but he that

is of God. An evil-minded man cannot be in touch with one whose every thought is pure and holy. It is as easy for two persons speaking different languages to understand each other, as it is for impurity to understand purity. In the same way, it is an absolute impossibility for any one to understand the Scriptures unless he is filled with the same spirit as they who wrote them. It were useless for me to write to you in the French language, unless that language is understood by you. So it is useless for any one to try to understand the writings of the men of God, unless the Spirit of God dwells in him. Now, men in all ages, since the Bible has been given to man, have endeavored to interpret it, but judging by the many differing churches established, the interpretations are numerous; man by his own wisdom has failed to read the message aright.

Each man who has stepped aside from the beaten track to establish a new church, has done so whole-heartedly, with a desire to benefit his fellowmen, and who shall say he has failed? If a man learns but one great truth during his lifetime, and lives up to the same with every fibre of his being, he is of some use to the human race, and paves the way for greater truths that follow, and so, little by little, throughout the centuries, truths have been sought and found, but remained in a scattered condition. One church had learnt one truth, another, another. The church known as Christian Scientists learned that faith was necessary to heal the sick (James 5: 14-15). The Baptists held to baptism of believers by immersion (John 3: 5). The Church of England taught the laying on of hands for the receiving of the Holy Ghost (Acts 8: 17). All that was lacking was, for all the truths from all the churches to be amalgamated into one great whole, and for one who could do this great thing to boldly declare, "This is the way, walk ye in it."

This great task devolved upon the latter-day prophet—Joseph Smith. Now, friends, don't fly off at a tangent if I mention a name you hate, although you know nothing of the man who owned it. Joseph Smith, the "Mormon" prophet, was a true prophet of God, just as were Moses, Jeremiah, or any of the rest of them. He was the man who in these latter days has arisen to wipe the cobwebs from men's minds and untangle them from the dust of centuries, giving them clear vision, uniting the hundreds of religions into a perfect whole. By the power and under the direction of the Great I AM has he done this, for of himself he was as powerless as you or I.

But the adversary is just as wide awake to-day as he was when the Bible was first placed in the hands of the people, and he says to his generals, "Now, gentlemen! see here, the hundred-odd churches that are in the world can be safely left to take care of themselves, but this new church which has sprung up with Joseph Smith the prophet at the head, needs watching; or we are going to lack occupation." And so his satanic majesty gets busy, and being a

liar from the beginning and never having learnt any other language, he speaks the only one he knows, and the world has no more sense than to be gulled thereby.

Many a time, when I am wandering where I will in this "City of the Saints"—as free to come and go as ever I was in England—my thoughts revert to the land of my birth, and I smile as I think of the stories of this city that are told there. Then a rush of pity fills my heart as I think how easily, oh, how easily! does the devil blind the eyes of man.

From the window of the room in which I sit, I look out at the city lying hundreds of feet below me, for I am living away up on a slope of the mountain—uphill all the way—and from this superior height I view the city, lit at night with its myriad lights, and looking like fairy-land, as it lies embedded in the trees all crowned with snow. At night time the twinkling lights and the stars above are all I can see; but in the morning, as I sit up in bed, I can see right across the valley to the mountains beyond, and as I gaze on these snow-clad heights, I think of the "wall" the world says is around Salt Lake City.

We have had a glorious winter. King Frost has had things all his own way for weeks, and sleighing has been the favorite pastime. The youngsters have had a gala time, dragging their sleighs up the heights and then sliding down on them for over two thousand feet. Certain streets are set apart for this sport, no traffic whatever being allowed on them, and for this reason accidents are rare. Where these streets cross the car lines (all streets cross at right angles), the cars have to stop to see that the road is clear. Although we have had so much frost and snow, it does not seem so cold to me as in England or Scotland. The sky overhead generally is of the brightest blue, and one cannot refrain from singing, "O ye mountains high, where the clear blue sky Arches over the vales of the free." Icicles, from one inch to two yards long, have hung suspended from the roof, and with the sun shining upon them, they glisten like diamonds. In the canyons, snow lies eight feet deep on the level, and where it has drifted, report says it is twenty feet. This winter-snow will be utilized for summer-irrigation, and we are glad to see it.

Just now we are enjoying warm, sunny days, with frosty nights. Days like these make me long for the English hedgerows and green fields. I long to be out amongst the violets. These days, I remember seven thousand miles of land and sea lie between me and the dear old country lanes; but then I look to the snow-capped mountains and realize that I am where the Lord would have me be, and my heart grows contented. I would not come back; these valleys of the mountains have grown dear to me. The father of lies has put it into the hearts of men to malign this city and her founders; but if those statements were true, Salt Lake City, one of the grandest cities in the world, would be non-existent, and the desert, instead

of being converted into a beautiful garden, would still be naught but a howling wilderness.

Think, men, think! Sensuous pleasure-seekers do not trek a thousand miles through mire and sage-brush to be rewarded at the end of their journey by sage-brush and nothing, no dwelling place within a thousand miles radius, and not a tree in sight to afford even a passing shelter. It takes *men* to do things like this, men of grit, of good moral stamina, men who have learnt self-control, and who practise it. And the first inhabitants of these valleys were *men*, I tell you, men whose sons to-day are walking in their fathers' footsteps, with heads proudly raised, conscious of the fact that God is with them, as He was with their fathers when He led them through the wilderness to their safe retreat here in the mountains.

Salt Lake City. MOLLIE HIGGINSON.

DRINK BILL OF A NATION.

MR. GEORGE B. WILSON, secretary of the United Kingdom Alliance, Manchester, shows by statistics that, although the quantity of intoxicating liquors consumed during 1915 was somewhat less than that consumed during 1914 and 1913, yet the actual amount of money spent showed an increase 10.5 per cent. over the figures of 1914, and 9 per cent. over those of 1913. The liquor dealers made more money on a smaller investment in material and labor. Mr. Wilson estimates the amount expended on alcoholic liquors in 1915 at £181,959,000, as compared with £164,463,000 in 1914, being an increase of £17,496,000. The average expenditure per head was £3 18s. 11d., and per family of five persons £19 14s. 7d., as compared with £3 10s. 10d., and £17 14s. 2d., respectively, in 1914. The *per capita* consumption of spirits was .76 proof gallons; beer, 24.18 bulk gallons; and wine, .22 gallons, as compared with .68, 27.6, and .23 gallons respectively in 1914. The total consumption of pure alcohol was 78¾ million gallons, as against 85 million gallons in 1914, and of this quantity 72½ per cent. was taken in the form of beer, 25½ per cent. as spirits, and 2 per cent. as wine.

The consumption of tobacco is steadily increasing in the United Kingdom, and the figures for 1911 are the highest ever reached in this kingdom; 94,498,750lb. of tobacco was consumed, and the total amount of the tobacco bill reached the enormous sum of £29,164,867. With a population of 45,311,078, this gives us a little more than 2lb. of tobacco a head at a cost of 12s. 10½d. each. The cost works out at £2 17s. 11d. a family, or 1s. 1½d. per week.

It was recently remarked in the *Star* that if the people would abstain from alcoholic drinks, coffee, tea, and tobacco, they would save enough in a few years to pay for this war. This statement is born out by the fact that this country, during the years 1900-14 spent £2,516,000,000 on drink alone. Add to this the cost of the

tobacco, coffee and tea consumed, and it will be seen at what enormous cost we are maintaining ruinous habits.

"EUROPE IS BLIND."

THAT is the opinion of Knut Wallenberg, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden. In an interview with a correspondent of the *Daily Post* and *Daily Chronicle*, he said, in part:

"I will tell you how I see this war as a private individual. I see it as the most calamitous thing which has ever struck Europe. I keep myself free from the French idea, the German idea, the English idea, and I see this war as an inexpressible calamity for the whole of Europe.

"Europe is blind. Reason is gone. Each nation says, 'We must fight on.' Each nation has excellent reasons for saying that it must fight on. None of the nations can wish to be defeated. Defeat must seem as bad for the one as for the other. But while they say, 'We must fight on,' and are honestly sure in their own minds that not to fight on will be ruin for them, they do not see, it seems to me they do not see, that Europe itself is in peril—that great Europe of which each one is only a part, and which is the only safeguard for civilization against unthinkable barbarism. Why do they not see this? I must conclude that they are blind. Look at what is happening. With the wealth of Europe is going the youth of Europe—young men in every one of the warring nations who have intellects which they might use for the progress of humanity. The waste of life is appalling. Heroism is in vain. Europe itself is bleeding. And if each nation persists in fighting on and on, if there is to be no armistice for the statesmen to reflect, if everything is confided to the soldier, it must surely be that Europe will bleed to death."

This is the unadorned truth. If people could but realize what this war means to Europe, and to the entire world, they would make up their minds that this is to be the last war in history.

A LAD in Boston, U.S.A., rather small for his years, worked in an office as errand boy for four gentlemen who did business there. One day the gentlemen were chaffing him about being so small, and said to him, "You never will amount to much, you never can do much business; you are too small." The little fellow looked at them. "Well," said he, "as small as I am, I can do something which none of you four men can do." "Ah, what is that?" said they. "I don't know that I ought to tell you," he replied. But they were anxious to know, and urged him to tell what he could do that none of them were able to do. "I can keep from swearing!" said the little fellow. There were some blushes on four manly faces, and there seemed to be very little anxiety for further information on the point.—SELECTED.

WHY WAS MAN PLACED ON EARTH?

MAN was placed on earth to overcome evil, gain experience, and become perfect, even as "our Father in heaven is perfect." All of us will be tempted, even as our progenitors were tempted. There are various degrees of temptations, and we will meet them according to our sphere and calling in life.

We, as well as our Lord, Jesus Christ, must be tempted by the adversary. Many times we yield to him, and are thereby overcome by sin. Many have conquered, but we all still have some faults and failings. Now, the question arises, "How can I overcome these?" How did the Savior overcome the temptations, when He was tempted? Was it not by the fervent prayers He was continually offering to His Father in heaven? You will say "Yes," and also by giving perfect obedience to His Father's will, and we, by the same means, prayer and obedience, will overcome evil and subdue that which is wicked. We will become perfect, "even as our Father in heaven is perfect."

God, in His divine plan, placed man on the earth for a wise and glorious purpose. Through revelation we know what that purpose was. We know also that He placed an opposite in all things, and He gave us dominion over all the earth, and outlined a divine plan for us to follow. The first steps in that plan are faith, repentance, and baptism in water and the Spirit. Although these are the first principles, we must obey all other teachings that come from God. We should live the principles of the gospel. By living all the principles, we become heirs to righteousness, and win for ourselves a place in God's kingdom. We must study and learn all we can, for the "glory of God is intelligence." He, in His infinite mercy, has blessed us with discriminating powers, so that we may be able to choose right from wrong. Can we gain His presence by being lifted up in vain pride, stiffneckedness, and gaining favor with the world, and just floating along the stream of life? No. If we just float and do not row, we are likely to be caught in an undertow, and perish in the different vices which have caused the downfall of so many inhabitants of the earth.

Oh! men, women, and children of every clime, you are engaged in a great conflict between right and wrong; you are fighting a great fight. Therefore, set your mark high; fight the good fight, for high ideals have often inspired to noble deeds.

Nottingham. JABEZ E. NEVILLE.

"THE righteous had to suffer with the wicked; and it is the ungodly who bring trouble upon the righteous, and they have to pay that debt. If it is not in ten thousand times ten thousand years, they will have to pay the debt for unlawfully bringing distress upon the righteous."—(HEBER C. KIMBALL, *Journal of Discourses*, Vol. IV., p. 337).

"THE DAY OF TITHING."

"BEHOLD, now it is called to-day (until the coming of the Son of man), and verily it is a day of sacrifice, and a day for the tithing of my people; for he that is tithed shall not be burned (at his coming)" (Doc. and Cov. Sec. 64: 23). Here is a commandment of God to all the saints. How many are there among us that are obeying it? I would urge every member of the Church to give unto God freely that which belongs to Him. In Malachi 3: 8-10, we read: "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Here we have ample proof that this commandment is of God, and not of man. Therefore, it is our duty to put forth every effort to pay this tithing, and come up to the standard. The Lord has promised these great blessings to those who obey this commandment. Are we going to lose these blessings through neglecting to do our duty? We have our free agency. We can obey or disobey. Go to your heavenly Father with prayerful hearts and ask for guidance.

In Doctrine and Covenants, Sec. 119: 2-4, we learn what tithing is for. It is "For the building of mine house, and for the laying of the foundation of Zion and for the Priesthood, and for the debts of the Presidency of my church; and this shall be the beginning of the tithing of my people; and after that, those who have thus been tithed, shall pay one-tenth of all their interest annually; and this shall be a standing law unto them forever, for my holy Priesthood, saith the Lord. The amount the Lord requires of us is just one-tenth of our interest annually, nothing more, nor less. Are we robbing God of this small portion which rightfully belongs to Him? Let us prove ourselves worthy of the blessings that God has in store for us.

Wisbech. SARAH ANN PHILLIPS.

"THE place of the rainbow depends upon your standing-point; and I say that the conviction of the being and character of a God depends upon your moral standing-point. To believe in God is simply the most difficult thing in the world. You must be pure before you can believe in purity; generous before you can believe in unselfishness. In all moral truth, what you are, that is the condition of your belief. Only to him in whom infinite aspirations stir, can an Infinite One be proved."—FREDERICK W. ROBERTSON.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1916.

EDITORIAL.

TWO VISIONS AND A TRUE PROPHECY.

MAURICE MAETERLINCK seems to be of the opinion that the present war was predicted in July, 1869. In the published accounts it is stated that Léon Sonrel one day, at that time, while strolling with a friend in the garden of Luxembourg, had a vision which caused him to exclaim:

"My country is lost! France is dead! * * * What a disaster! Ah, see, she is saved! She extends to the Rhine! O France! O my beloved country, you are triumphant!"—(Quoted by the *Liverpool Post*, February 23rd, 1916).

There seems to be no reason to doubt the genuineness of this account. Nor is there any reason for doubting the statement that his friend, in May, 1914, believing this to be a true prophecy, predicted that the war would break out before the month of September, that year. The spirit of prophecy is generally warning God's children of coming calamities.

George Washington is credited with a vision in which he saw three successive perils through which the great American republic was to pass, one of which is still supposed to be future. The story of this vision was published years ago, as told, it is said, by one Anthony Sherman to a friend, and Sherman, it is asserted, had it from Washington himself.

Washington, one day—so runs the story—while sitting at a table preparing dispatches, noticed a supernatural being standing opposite him. While gazing at the mysterious visitor, he felt as if paralyzed; he could neither move nor speak. Then, in Washington's own words:

"Presently I heard a voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn'; while at this same time my visitor extended her arm eastwardly. I now beheld a heavy, white vapor at some distance, rising, fold upon fold. This gradually dissipated, and I looked upon a strange scene. Before me lay spread out in one vast plain all the countries of the world, Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. I saw, rolling and tossing between Europe and America, the billows of the Atlantic, and between Asia and America lay the Pacific.

"'Son of the Republic,' said the same mysterious voice as before, 'look and learn.'

"At that moment I beheld a dark, shadowy being like an angel,

standing, or rather floating, in mid-air between Europe and America. Dipping water out of the ocean in the hollow of each hand, he sprinkled some upon America with his right hand, while he cast upon Europe some with his left. Immediately a dark cloud arose from each of these countries, and joined in mid-ocean. For a while it remained stationary, and then moved slowly westward, until it enveloped America in its murky folds. Sharp flashes of lightning gleamed through it at intervals, and I heard the smothering groans and cries of the American people.

"A second time the angel dipped water from the ocean and sprinkled it out as before. The dark cloud was then drawn back to the ocean, in whose heaving waves it sank from view. A third time I heard the mysterious voice, saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn.'

"I cast my eyes upon America, and beheld villages, towns and cities springing up, one after another, until the whole land, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, was dotted with them. And again I heard the mysterious voice say:

"'Son of the Republic, look and learn.'

"At this the dark, shadowy angel turned his face southward, and from Africa I saw an ill-omened specter approach our land. It flitted slowly and heavily over town and city of the latter, the inhabitants of which presently set themselves in battle array against each other. As I continued looking, I saw a bright angel on whose brow rested a crown of light, on which was traced 'Union,' bearing the American flag, which was placed between the divided nation, and said, 'Remember ye are brethren.'

"Instantly the inhabitants, casting from them their weapons, became friends once more, and united around the national standard. And again I heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, the end of the century cometh; look and learn.'

"At this the dark, shadowy angel placed a trumpet to his month, and blew three distinct blasts, and, taking water from the ocean, sprinkled it upon Europe, Asia, and Africa.

"Then my eyes beheld a fearful scene. From each of these countries arose thick, black clouds, that were soon joined into one. And throughout this mass there gleamed a dark, red light, by which I saw the hordes of armed men, who, moving with the cloud, marched by land and sailed by sea to America, which country was enveloped in the volume of the cloud. And I dimly saw those vast armies devastate the whole country, and burn the villages, towns and cities that I beheld spring up. As my ears listened to the thundering of cannon, clashing of swords, and shouts and cries of the millions in mortal combat, I again heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn.'

"When the voice had ceased, the dark, shadowy angel placed his trumpet to his mouth, and blew a long, fearful blast.

"Instantly a light, as if a thousand suns, shone down from above

me, and pierced and broke into fragments the dark cloud which enveloped America. At the same moment I saw the angel upon whose head still shone the word *Union*, and who bore our national flag in one hand, and a sword in the other, descending from heaven, attended by legions of bright spirits. These immediately joined the inhabitants of America, who I perceived were well-nigh overcome, but who, immediately taking courage, again closed up their broken ranks and renewed the battle. Again, amid the fearful noise of conflict, I heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn.'

"As the voice ceased, the shadowy angel for the last time dipped water from the ocean and sprinkled it on America. Instantly the dark cloud rolled back, together with the armies it had brought, leaving the inhabitants of the land victorious. Then once more I beheld villages, towns and cities springing up where they had been before, while the bright angel, planting the azure standard he had brought, in the midst of them cried, in a loud voice, 'While the stars remain, and the heavens send down dew upon the earth, so long shall the Republic last.'

"And taking from his brow the crown on which blazoned the word *Union*, he placed it upon the standard, while the people kneeling down said, 'Amen.'

"The scene instantly began to fade and dissolve, and I at last saw nothing but the rising, curling vapor I had first beheld. This also disappearing, I found myself once more gazing on my mysterious visitor, who in the same voice I had heard before, said:

"'Son of the Republic, what you have seen is thus interpreted: Three perils will come upon the Republic. The most fearful is the second; passing which, the whole world united shall never be able to prevail against her. Let every child of the Republic learn to live for his God, his land and the Union.'

"With these words the vision vanished, and I started from my seat, and felt that I had seen a vision wherein had been shown me the birth, progress and destiny of the United States."

We have no means of tracing this story to its origin, and can form no opinion as to its significance. But it was widely circulated at one time.

A true prediction, however, and one which was given by divine inspiration, as were the prophecies of Isaiah, Daniel, Paul, or John, concerning kingdoms and their history, was uttered, among many others, by the Prophet Joseph Smith, on the wars of the time of the end. It was received by the prophet on the 25th of December, 1832, and was incorporated in the Doctrine and Covenants (Sec. 87), a collection of revelations accepted by the saints in a general assembly held at Kirtland, on the 17th of August, 1835. We refer to the "Revelation on War."

In this revelation the Prophet predicted that "wars" would begin with the rebellion of South Carolina, and that, "the days

will come that war will be poured out upon all nations, beginning at that place." He predicted that the Southern States would call upon Great Britain and other nations for help, and that slaves would fight against their masters. He predicted trouble with the Indians—"the remnant"—famine, plague, etc., and said that this condition would continue until the end.

So far, this remarkable prediction has been fulfilled to the letter. We are now living at a time when "the inhabitants of the earth" are made to feel the wrath of God "with earthquakes, and the thunder of heaven, and the fierce and vivid lightning," if by these terms the effects of modern artillery and high explosives are referred to. There is not a prophetic utterance of modern times, or any time, that has received a more striking fulfilment than this.

Let the children of men everywhere give heed to it, for it proves that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God, and that it is our duty to receive his message concerning the everlasting plan of salvation.

J. M. S.

MINUTES OF THE LONDON CONFERENCE.

THE annual London conference was held at "Deseret," 152 High Road, South Tottenham, London, N., on Sunday, March 19th, 1916. There were in attendance: President Hyrum M. Smith, of the European mission; Elder John E. Cottam, of the Liverpool office; President Clarence J. Woods, of the Liverpool conference; Elder Charles J. Smith, of the Nottingham conference; Elder Vernon W. Dean, of the Bristol conference; and President James G. McKay and seven traveling elders of the London conference.

Three sessions of the conference, and a baptismal service, were held, many saints and friends being present. All the meetings were ably conducted by President James G. McKay.

The morning session commenced at 10:30 by singing, "Welcome, welcome, Sabbath morning." Invocation by Elder Gilbert Taysom. Continued by singing, "Did you think to pray?"

A sacrament gem was recited by the kindergarten class of the Holloway Sunday school.

Sacrament was administered by Elders Jesse W. Lloyd and William Payne.

The intermediate department of the North London Sunday school recited in concert the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah.

The story of the Book of Mormon was told in brief by Elder William J. Loosle.

The kindergarten department of the North London branch Sunday school sang, "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam."

Sister Ethel Norton, of the Watford branch Sunday school, told the story of "Moses in the bulrushes."

The boys of the kindergarten department of the Holloway Sunday school sang, "Christmas cradle hymn."

The primary department of the South London Sunday school recited in concert the names of the books of the Bible and of the Book of Mormon.

President Hyrum M. Smith then spoke, expressing his pleasure at being present, and having the opportunity of meeting with the Sunday school workers and members of the London conference. He rejoiced in seeing the children learn the truths of the gospel, for by learning these they will build up character, and acquire strength to battle against the adversary. We have met here this morning to learn of the things God has revealed to us. Our Sunday school teachers know they are true, and teach them to the children. The song, "Ere you left your room this morning," is for the older members, as well as the younger folks. After asking how many had prayed before leaving their rooms, he expressed his pleasure that so many put into practice their religion. It is necessary that we pray in the morning, as well as in the evening, as during the day we meet more danger. The Latter-day Saint children are taught to pray and thank our heavenly Father for His blessings upon them. Fathers should call their children around them in the morning, and, after singing a song, thank God for all His blessings. Nothing gives parents more joy than to have their children around them at prayer time, and together call upon the Lord. This is a privilege we all have, and we should not neglect it. We learn in the Sunday school how to do these things, and why we do them, and it gives us ambition to go forth and live the laws of the gospel. The Lord Jesus came into the world to show us the way of life, and He was the greatest of all teachers; and here the children learn the things He taught.

Singing, "We are all enlisted." Prayer by Elder Harold A. Lambert.

The afternoon session commenced at 2 o'clock by singing, "High on the mountain top." Prayer by President Clarence J. Woods, of the Liverpool conference. Singing, "Though deepening trials."

Piano solo by Sister Lilaine Olva.

Elders Jesse W. Lloyd and William Payne officiated at the sacrament table.

Elder Howard J. Layton, clerk of the conference, presented the authorities of the Church. All were unanimously sustained.

Solo, "O rest in the Lord," by Sister Grace Tout Pugh.

Elder Joseph R. Standage addressed the meeting, expressing his pleasure at having the opportunity to speak on such an occasion. He spoke on the Book of Mormon, telling briefly what it contained.

Elder Harold A. Lambert was the next speaker. He said many people are in darkness as to what the Book of Mormon is. They claim that the word of the Prophet Joseph is not enough to establish its claim, but that others should have seen the plates from which it was translated. Well, there are other witnesses. Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer, and Martin Harris, after humbling

themselves before the Lord, saw an angel, who brought with him a table, upon which were the plates, and they saw them and knew that Joseph had spoken the truth. Afterwards eight more were shown the plates, and all these men signed their names as witnesses to the world that the Book of Mormon is true.

A solo, "O ye mountains high," was sung by Sister Grace Tout Pugh.

Elder Howard J. Layton next addressed the meeting. He said he marveled that in a city where millions of people dwelt, so few had the courage to accept the gospel. When the Savior was upon the earth, He knew that, because of the hardness of men's hearts, they would not listen to the servants of the Lord. He told His disciples that it would be the same as in the days of Noah, and that there should be wars and rumors of wars. When we see these things we may know that the coming of the Lord is nigh, just as we know summer is nigh when the leaves come out on a fig tree.

Elder Gilbert Taysom, after expressing his pleasure at being present, said that the Book of Mormon which had been mentioned by the other speakers was spoken of by the prophets of the Bible. Isaiah, told us that the inhabitants of Jerusalem would be brought down and made low, but that some would escape these calamities. Jeremiah also told the people of his day to flee and take refuge upon a high mountain. The speaker again referred to Isaiah to show that a book was to come forth; also the words of other prophets, such as John on the Isle of Patmos, when he saw an angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto mankind. Moroni, who was the angel that appeared to Joseph Smith, declared he was the same person who had hid the ancient record, and now it has come forth and is proof of the Bible, just as the Bible is proof of the Book of Mormon.

Singing, "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning." Prayer by Elder John E. Cottam.

The evening session commenced at 6 o'clock by singing, "Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah." Prayer by Brother George Duncan.

Song by a ladies' chorus, under the direction of Sister Lilaine Olva.

Elder John E. Cottam addressed the congregation, expressing his pleasure at having the opportunity of meeting with the members of the London conference. He said that he had not come to this land to view its beautiful scenery, nor had he been sent to visit its many historic places, but to aid in presenting the gospel to all who would listen. The message proclaimed by the Church is not a new gospel, but one that has always existed. God knew the end from the beginning, and that all truth would be for the preservation of mankind. In the books of revelation there are many truths that exceed the wisdom of mankind. We should thank God for all blessings, as all good things come from Him.

Without His help there can be no life, as He is the great chemist who combines the life-giving elements. The village blacksmith who makes useful articles for his neighbors, the farmer who produces food for men, or the merchant who sells without extorting, helps his fellows, and is thus making a success of life; while the tobacco-grower, the cigar-maker, or the man who distils intoxicating liquors from the grains, is only destroying the happiness and lives of others. There are two spirits in the world, one of Satan, and one of Christ. One works destruction, and one life; and we can choose which we will follow. We are of the same race as God, and by overcoming the weaknesses of this life we may become like Him. All the Latter-day Saints should live exemplary lives before the world. Our prayers should not be neglected, and we should pray for peace, and hold no ill-feelings against those of another race or nationality, but be willing to forgive our enemies. The day of life is passing away very fast, and we should at all times do all we can for our fellowman, and seek the will of the Lord from the inspired writings in the books of God. The speaker asked the blessings of the Lord upon all the Latter-day Saints, that they might remain faithful, and, in God's kingdom, advance through eternity.

Solo, "I have read of a beautiful city," by Sister Doris Rumble.

Sister Ivy Faulkner rendered the solo, "I know that my Redeemer lives."

President Hyrum M. Smith said that he was glad to extend his greetings to the saints of the London conference. He had been pleased with the conference, and rejoiced in hearing the saints sing the songs of Zion. Throughout the world, Christian ministers are preaching sermons on living good lives, but the "Mormon" elder goes farther than they, and preaches a doctrine that will save all who will accept it, and damn all who reject it. Joseph Smith, in the year 1820, wondered whether the great religious conflict of the time could be right. He found the Baptist against the Presbyterian, and both of these against the others. To find the correct one, he asked God, who told him that all were wrong in His sight, and that, in due time, the Church of God would be established. President Smith read from the writings of Joseph the Prophet the description of the vision in which the Prophet saw God the Father and the Son. Later, an angel came to the prophet with a message that had been hidden in a hill, not far away, and was a record which the angel had deposited there many centuries before. John, the beloved apostle of the Lord, had seen this angel come with the gospel to give to the inhabitants of the earth. This record was translated by Joseph Smith, under the inspiration of God, and it has come forth as a witness that the Bible is the word of the Lord. He cited several passages of Scripture to show that the prophets of the Old Testament, as well as the New, understood that this book was to come forth. The book is one of the greatest witnesses

God has given to prove the authenticity of the Bible against higher criticism. This is the message the "Mormon" elder has to declare to the world. The Book of Mormon was hid up to come forth at this time of contention and dispute. These missionaries God has sent into the world to preach the truth, and they speak as with voices of angels to declare the restoration of the gospel in this day. The Book of Mormon is the stick of Ephraim, and the Bible the stick of Judah, and to-day they are united to declare the word of God. These books are witnesses of God, and thousands can declare that they are true. This is our message, and we know that it is true, and that all who will hear and obey the word of the Lord will be saved.

Singing, "We thank Thee, O God, for a prophet." Benediction by Elder Jesse W. Lloyd.

A priesthood meeting of the elders of the London conference was held at "Deseret," 152 High Road, South Tottenham, London, N., on Monday, March 20th 1916, at 7:30 a.m. Reports were made by President James G. McKay and the elders of the conference, showing the conference to be in a good condition. Much encouragement and valuable instructions were given by President Hyrum M. Smith and Elder John E. Cottam.

HOWARD J. LAYTON, Clerk of Conference.

A TESTIMONY.

I HAVE a testimony that the gospel as taught by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is true; that Joseph Smith was a prophet sent of God, to restore the gospel in these last days, and I know that to all who believe and obey its teachings the promises are given that they shall receive an hundred-fold in this life, and in the world to come life everlasting.

I arrived in this country on May 15th, 1914, with my sister, who had been a member of the Church for three years. I was convinced of the truth of the gospel; but not having attended meetings in England, except a few on my visits at home, and wishing to understand fully the step I was taking in choosing what I had long hoped for, the only true Church, I joined a band of "Mormon" pilgrims, and felt quite at home in their company, with never a doubt as to our safe arrival in Zion. After three months, attending every service, and feeling more convinced each day, I decided to be baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and have never regretted the step I have taken; only that it did not happen many years earlier.

I have a longing to learn and understand all the principles of the gospel, to keep the Word of Wisdom and obey the law of tithing, that I may receive the blessings promised to all who are faithful.

Ogden, Utah. EDITH HIGGINSON.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

Change in Conference Presidency.—Elder Vern R. Ekins has been appointed president of the Norwich conference, to succeed Elder William Werret, Jr., who has been honorably released from his labors in the mission field.

Baptisms.—A baptismal service was held at "Deseret," 152 High Road, South Tottenham, London, N., on Sunday March 19th, 1916, when nine souls were baptized by Elders Harold A. Lambert, Joseph R. Standage, and Howard J. Layton, and were later confirmed members of the Church.

Releases and Departures.—The following-named missionaries have been honorably released from their labors in the British mission, and sailed for home March 18th, 1916, per s.s. *Finland*: George H. Cook, J. Ensign Riggs, William C. Whyte, Jabez E. Neville, Leroy Dance, Lewis B. Merrill, Charles F. Powell, Jesse D. Barlow, William Werrett, Jr., and John G. Bullock. With the company were two emigrants. The party was in charge of Elder William Werrett, Jr.

DIED.

Diston.—At Sunderland (Newcastle conference), March 7th, 1916, Elizabeth E. Diston. Deceased was born January 27th, 1915, and was blessed February 21st, 1915, by Elder Marion Knight.

Bennett.—At Southery (Norwich conference), March 6th, 1916, Daniel Skelton Bennett, aged 63 years. Brother Bennett had been ill for some time.

Dawson.—At Leicester, (Nottingham conference), March 10th, 1916, Marie Ann V. Dawson. Sister Dawson was born January 14th, 1844, and baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on September 16th, 1900, by Elder R. P. Carlisle.

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